Serial No. 10/824,657

Attorney Docket No. 1293.1864

## <u>REMARKS</u>

Claims 50-52 have been newly added. Proper support for newly added claims 50-52 can be found in the specification at least at paragraphs [0019] through [0023] and [0053] through [0056]. No new matter is presented. Claims 9-21, 29, 36-39 and 42-52 are pending and under consideration. Claims 9, 18, 29, 36, 42, 45, 48, 50 and 52 are the independent claims.

Applicants respectfully request entry of the Terminal Disclaimer, filed herewith, and reconsideration and allowance of the present application in view of the Terminal Disclaimer and the following remarks.

## **ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER:**

Claims 9-21, 29, 36-39 and 42-49 would be allowed if a terminal disclaimer is timely filed.

## DOUBLE PATENTING

Claims 9-16, 18-20, 29, 36-39 and 42-49 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-16 and 19-25 of copending Application No. 11/226,224.

Applicants submit herewith a Terminal Disclaimer with respect to U.S. Patent Application No. 11/226,224. In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 9-16, 18-20, 29, 36-39 and 42-49 is overcome.

Claims 9-21, 29, 36-39 and 42-49 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-18 of copending Application No. 11/432,328.

Applicants submit herewith a Terminal Disclaimer with respect to U.S. Patent Application No. 11/432,328. In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 9-21, 29, 36-39 and 42-49 is overcome.

Claims 9-16, 18-20, 29, 36-39 and 42-49 are provisionally rejected under the judicially

Serial No. 10/824,657

Attorney Docket No. 1293.1864

created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-16 of copending Application No. 11/432,470, now allowed.

Applicants submit herewith a Terminal Disclaimer with respect to U.S. Patent Application No. 11/432,470. In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 9-16, 18-20, 29, 36-39 and 42-49 is overcome.

## **CONCLUSION:**

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 503333.

Respectfully submitted,

STEIN, MCEWEN & BUI, LLP

Date:  $\frac{1/4/07}{}$ 

y: <u>Vouglas Verduguees</u> Douglas X. Rodriguez -

Registration No. 47,269

1400 Eye St., NW Suite 300

Washington, D.C. 20005 Telephone: (202) 216-9505 Facsimile: (202) 216-9510